

Estuaries.NOAA.gov SWMP Data Graphing Tool
Tutorial #1

Voice over	“Follow the mouse”
	Title: Accessing data from the NERRS System-wide Monitoring Program.
This video will show you how to use a simple tool to access environmental data from estuaries around the United States. By using a simple form and map, you can retrieve graphs that show just the data you want.	
Let's look at how the tool works. The System-wide Monitoring Program uses different instruments to monitor water quality, meteorological factors, and nutrient levels	Overlay graphic showing available parameters in three columns: Mouse past the radio list and select “water quality.”
Generally, there are four water quality stations and one weather station in each of the National Estuarine Research Reserves. You can select stations from a list or find them on a map. Use the dropdown menu below the map to see a list of stations organized by state.	Click on dropdown menu to display list of available stations.
Using the map, you can zoom in to see exactly where each station is located. You can use your mouse to drag and re-center the map. The map controls let you zoom in to take a closer look at each station location.	Drag and pan the map to center over South Carolina. Zoom the map until you can distinguish five stations in the North Inlet - Winyah Bay NERR.
The stations are color coded: Dark green markers indicate stations that are currently active. Pale green markers indicate stations that are not currently collecting data, but you can still look at past data from these locations. Click the marker for the station you wish to use.	Mouse past a dark green marker. Mouse past a pale green marker. Select Debidue Creek.
Once you select a station, you can see which parameters are available at that station using the drop-down menu.	Select “water temperature” for the parameter.
Next, you must specify the time period you wish to examine. You can enter the “From” and “To” dates directly or use the calendar icon to select the dates. Finally click the “Graph” button to retrieve the data.	Click the “From” calendar to select 08/01/2011. Click the “To” calendar to select 08/06/2011. Click the “Graph” button. A graph appears.
Once you've made your graph, you can show additional parameters using the “Add Data” button.	Click “Add Data” button.
In this example, we will compare two water quality parameters, Oxygen Concentration and Water Temperature at the same station. Notice	Select “Oxygen Concentration.” Click “Add.”

that the station is already selected. Use the drop down menu to pick a second parameter, and click the “Add button.”	
Because our two parameters are measured on different scales, the graphing tool will allow you to add a second Y Axis to your graph. Click Yes.	Click Yes in the Axis Change dialog.
Your graph now shows two water quality parameters from the same station. You can use the “Zoom In” and “Zoom Out” buttons to look closely at regions of your graph.	Click “Zoom In” a few times to enlarge a graph region.
Placing your cursor over one of the data series on the map to see the values of individual points.	Mouse over the graph to see the pop-up display of individual values.
Clicking on one of the data series gives you the option to download the data to your own computer as a comma-delimited CSV file which you can open as a spreadsheet.	Click on one of the data series lines and mouse past the “Export Data Series” button. Click the “X” to close the dialog. (At this point, you may need to edit out an additional dialog that appears to be a bug.)
You can also save your graph to your computer as a PDF file, or click “Reset” to start over.	Mouse past “Create PDF” and “Reset” buttons.
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